MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

22 DECEMBER 1981

Israel

Relations With U.S. -- Jerusalem television reported that Cabinet ministers said they would have objected to Prime Minister Menahem Begin's remarks during his 20 December meeting with U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis if Begin had submitted them for Cabinet approval beforehand. Ministers objected to the sytle of Begin's remarks, although most of them identify with the contents, the report said. According to Jerusalem radio, a senior U.S. Embassy source denied that the issues of the Sinai Multinational Force and Observers and the withdrawal from the Sinai were raised during the Begin-Lewis meeting.

Jerusalem radio noted that the Labor Party issued a statement calling for every effort to be made to rehabilitate Israel's friendship with the United States but rejecting U.S. intentions to punish Israel for its political moves. The radio also reported that the Alignment faction will support the Shinuy-sponsored motion of no-confidence in the government that will be submitted for discussion in the Knesset on 23 December.

According to Jerusalem radio, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir told EEC ambassadors that he hopes the current disagreement between Israel and the United States will quickly pass. HA'ARETZ likewise reported that in the wake of the Begin-Lewis meeting, Israel has signaled to the U.S. administration its desire to contain the dispute and return to the path of dialogue and understanding. Commenting on the U.S. "sanctions" against Israel over its Golan Heights Law, HA'ARETZ opined that the "main sting" of Washington's punitive measures was directed against Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon, thus indicating U.S. dissatisfaction with Sharon and apprehension over possible Israeli military moves in the north, including an attack on the Syrian missiles in Lebanon.

Golan Heights -- Jerusalem radio reported that the Golan Heights will henceforth be incorporated in the Interior Ministry's northern district, coming under commissioner Yisra'el Koenig. According to other radio reports, five Druze were detained in the area, which is to come under the jurisdiction of Israeli courts.

Egypt

Comment on U.S.-Israeli Relations -- A Cairo radio commentary said Israel's cancellation of the U.S.-Israeli strategic cooperation agreement will frustrate any possible efforts by the European states to accelerate the Middle East peace process, eliminate any possibility of a peaceful initiative by moderate Arab states and increase the chances of reaction by extremist Arab forces. According to the commentary, the Israeli action also makes it clear that the United States should make the question of Middle East peace, rather than the question of security, its top priority in the region; casts doubt on the ability of the U.S. administration to work for peace in the area; and confirms the fear of new Israeli provocations endangering peace in the area.

Khalil Mediation Offer -- In an interview with the Israel newspaper YEDI'OT AHARONOT, National Democratic Party chief Mustafa Khalil said Egypt would take steps to facilitate negotiations between Israel and Syria if Israel rescinded its new Golan Heights Law. He said Egypt has access to channels through which it could act, and that it would use "another mediating factor," such as the United States, Morocco, Saudi Arabia or a European country that has good relations with Syria.

Syria

Damascus radio said Prime Minister Begin's announcement canceling the U.S.-Israeli strategic cooperation agreement exposes the nature of Israel's practices even toward those committed to safeguarding Israel's security. Begin's "arrogance and haughtiness" have reached the point of defying the whole world, the radio asserted.

Saudi Arabia

Syrian President Arrives -- According to SPA, Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad arrived in Riyadh on the first leg of a tour of Gulf region states. SPA later said he and his delegation began talks with King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and other Saudi officials.

Comment on U.S.-Israeli Relations -- SPA reported that in a commentary on recent developments in U.S.-Israeli relations, 'UKAZ said the U.S. administration has been unrealistic to imagine it can protect its interests in the region by depending on "an entity based on terrorism." Urging the United States to call for sanctions against Israel at the 5 January UN Security Council meeting and to be the first country to impose them. 'UKAZ said perhaps the United States now realizes that Israel's "arrogance" is no longer confined to the Arab region but has now insulted even U.S. dignity.

Gulf Affairs

According to WAKH, Iranian Charge d'Affaires Hasan Shushtarizadeh left Bahrain after being declared persona non grata. Bahrain had earlier asked Iran to recall the diplomat because of his alleged involvement in a sabotage plot against Bahrain. Citing a senior Bahraini security official, WAKH later reported that security forces had discovered a third arms cache belonging to the sabotage group.

During an interview, reported by Tehran radio, Iranian Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi warned the Persian Gulf region countries against supporting Iraq, asserting that Iran has their ports and roads under careful observation and is aware of their "treasonous actions." He said Iraq, the United States and Saudi Arabia cannot protect their independence, and dismissed the "so-called councils" as nothing but a "balloon." Musavi asserted that Iran has no designs on the independence or integrity of the Gulf region, but not at the price of U.S. domination. He said allegations of Iranian interference in the internal affairs of the region's nations are U.S. propaganda, but added that those nations siding with the United States must expect a "hostile reaction" from Iran.

Libya

Article Denounced U.S. -- Tripoli's Voice of Arab homeland radio broadcast an article published in Az-Zahf al-Akdhar denouncing the "war" being waged against Libya, including the economic war imposed by U.S. imperialism and by the "reactionary group" that helps the United States by flooding the world market with oil and cutting oil prices. It also accused the United States of using propaganda to create the pretext for staging armed action. The article asserted that the war is aimed at making Libya a "subservient lackey" like the other "agent regimes" in the Arab world, but declared that the Libyan people would rather die than live as slaves of the United States.

Kuwaiti-Libyan Joint Communique -- JANA carried the text of a joint communique issued at the conclusion of the 19-21 December visit to Libya by Kuwaiti Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah, in which the two countries denounced Israel's Golan Heights Law as a manifestation of continuing U.S. support for the "Zionist enemy." In a discussion of recent U.S. moves against Libya, Kuwait reaffirmed its solidarity with Libya, the communique stated. The two sides also agreed to further expand cooperation in the economic, oil and investment fields, among others.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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USSR REPORTED TO SUPPORT NEW AFGHAN GROUP

PM211543 London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 21 Dec 81 p 4

[John Fullerton dispatch: "'New Style' Communists for Kabul"]

[Text] Peshawar -- The Russians are already packing a "new style" Afghan communist regime to resolve the bitter and often violent feuding within the present government led by Mr Babrak Karmal. A leading jurist from Kabul who fled from Afghanistan recently said that after two years' occupation, the Russians were giving semi-official support to a new grouping of high-ranking Afghan officials and activists in the capital.

Known as the Work Movement, it was led by Mr Dastagir Panjsheri, a Tajik and minister of foreign affairs. Another prominent member of the group was Mr Zaher Oufuq, a little-known but influential Pushtun communist with a reputation for loyalty to Moscow.

The group had extended its influence into the party Central Committee, the Revolutionary Council and the armed forces.

The Russians were also trying to promote non-party "national figures" who had been persuaded to join an organisation known as the Fatherland Front. Although pursuing this course with caution, it was thought that eventually Moscow might combine the Work Movement with the Fatherland Front to form a new government in an attempt to win wider internal and international support.

Foreign observers point to the failure of the Kabul regime during the past two years to resolve the differences between the Khalq and Parcham factions of the ruling minority. The Work Movement, however, had attracted supporters from both groups.

Secondly, the Afghan Army had fallen in strength from about 80,000 to less than 30,000 through defections to the Afghan resistance. This, in turn, greatly swelled the quantity and variety of weapons deployed by the mujahidin guerrillas. The Russian and Afghan troops have proved particularly vulnerable on the roads linking the major cities and garrisons around the country, with the Russians suffering heavy casualties when their convoys have been ambushed on their way south from the Soviet border.

Although the guerrillas have limited numbers of SAM-7 missiles, lack of training has meant they have been unable so far to use these shoulder-fired anti-aircraft weapons effectively. Nevertheless, a substantial number of these MI-24 gunships have been shot down at close range by 14.5-mm heavy machineguns and RPG-7 anti-armour rockets.

CAPTURED AFGHAN REBEL GIVES PRESS CONFERENCE

LD192058 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 18 Dec 81

[Excerpts] The DRA Government, under the leadership of the PDPA, is attempting to advance our free and heroic country along the path of progress and development and it is investing all its efforts toward this end. All the toiling people of our country are assisting and helping their revolutionary and national government in the pursuit of this lofty and humane objective.

However, those who trample down their honor and treacherously take positions that are hostile to the well-being of our free and heroic people, this handful of people who have sold out to the dollar, pound and rupee, who serve the direct provocations of evil U.S. imperialism, Chinese hegemonism and Pakistani reaction, are trying with their antihuman activities to throw boulders in the path of the tranquillity and well-being of our people. They are unaware of the fact that our country has opened the way to the broad horizons of a prosperous life and their treacherous activities cannot block the path of our invincible revolution. They are becoming tiny in the face of the roaring storm of the April Revolution.

In order to inform our dear listeners of the treacherous activities of the counter-revolutionaries, we draw your attention to a press conference with a traitor to the homeland, to the revolution and to the people who was arrested by the security forces while performing subversive activities.

[Begin recording] [Question] Please introduce yourself.

[Answer] My name is Niyazuddin, son of Nezamuddin, resident of Chahar Dehi, Kabul Province. I was born in 1936 to a peasant family. After completing 11th grade I took a job in the land surveyor's department as a clerk and discharged my duties in the city of Mazar-e Sharif.

[Question] Please explain when and by whom you were captured.

[Answer] I was arrested in August 1981 in the region of [name indistinct], Kabul Province, during an armed operation of a Harakat-e Eslami band by a sarandoy force. I had in my possession 1 rifle of Chinese manufacture, 217 bullets and 1 Chinese handgrenade.

[Question] To which band did you belong?

[Answer] I was a member of Harakat-e Enqelab-e Eslami.

[Question] Where and by whom were you recruited?

[Answer] I was told to go to Iran and carried out my duties in Tehran in the Hezb-e Harakat-e Enqelab-e Eslami committee under the leadership of Abdol [name indistinct].

[Question] Can you provide details of your subversive activities?

[Answer] Before I answer your question I would like to say that we did not only carry out subversive activities against the DRA Government but also against the Islamic Government of Iran. We were told to attack embassies in Tehran, break windows and start fires. Our activities created a situation in which industrial workers in Iran left their places of work and caused foreign countries to distrust the Iranian Government.

[Question] What was the purpose of these subversive activities? Please explain.

[Answer] We held meetings and demonstrations in front of the DRA and Soviet Embassies in order to obtain a sum of money as Iranians [as heard]. Our aim was to destroy relations between the DRA and Iran and between Iran and the Soviet Union so that there would be a total break in relations. They told us not to worry about these subversive activities since they had backers in Iran.

[Question] Have you traveled to any other country in connection with your subversive activities?

[Answer] Yes, at the end of April 1981 I went to Pakistan together with other members of this band. I joined a military training course. After completing 15 days of military training we were told that the Islamic religion does not prohibit the killing of those working for Afghanistan and for the DRA Government, that we were allowed to carry out any action.

[Question] Can you tell us about your subversive activities against the DRA Government?

[Answer] Prior to coming to the DRA we were told that we should set fire to schools, destroy bridges and attack transport vehicles. We were then separated and came to the DRA to commence activities under Commander Habibollah who was active in Mosa'i and Lalander in Kabul Province.

We burned down the Mosa'i mosque, destroyed a bus, burned a tank in the region of Kol Bagh and plundered the cooperative shop of Deh Dana. After completing these actions I was appointed second deputy on the Lalander front. I was then captured during an armed operation of the Harakat-e Enqelab-e Eslami in the region of Deh Dana.

[Question] Who were your teachers in the military camps in Pakistan?

[Answer] In general, our teachers were American, Chinese, Egyptian, Pakistani and Afghan. Among them there were two Egyptian and two Afghans. The Egyptians delivered the lectures and the Afghans translated.

CORRESPONDENTS MEET WITH CAPTURED SOVIETS

BK210900 Hong Kong AFP in English 0831 GMT 21 Dec 81

[By Alain Faudeux]

[Text] Allah Jirga, Afghanistan, 21 Dec (AFP) -- Two Soviet soldiers being held near this mountain village close to the Pakistani border by an Afghan rebel group, told foreign newsmen today that they believed they would shortly be executed for refusing to convert to Islam. A third prisoner said he had agreed to convert.

Yuri Povarnitsin, 19, from the Ural Mountain town of Sverdlovsk, said he had been kept alive for six months since his capture "only for the needs of propaganda." He added that he "preferred suicide" to continued detention.

"I know I'm going to die and I'm prepared," added Valery Didenko, an 18-year-old Ukrainian member of a tank repair unit. He declined an offer by Western journalists to transmit a letter to his family, saying "there is no point in hurting my mother."

Mohammad Kuli Yazkuliev, the third prisoner, is from the Asian Turkmenistan region in the southern Soviet Union, and has accepted conversion, according to Mengel Hossein, a spokesman for the religious Hezb-e Eslami group, one of the largest Afghan resistance factions. "According to Islamic law, the prisoners must convert, and only ... Yazkuliev, whose father was a Moslem, said he intended to do so," Mr Hossein said. He declined to confirm or deny Mr Povarnitsin and Mr Didenko's charges that they would be executed for refusing to convert.

Mr Hossein said the leader of the Hezb-e Eslami, Gulbuddin Hikmatyar, and the group's political committee would decide the fate of the soldiers according to "Islamic principles." He added that the party had not sought to exchange the Soviets against rebels being held by the pro-Soviet Kabul government. "It would be too easy for the Soviets to arrest as many Afghans as necessary to make the exchange," he said. "The Afghan prisoners tortured and executed by the puppet regime ... will get their reward in Allah's paradise."

Despite the Soviet soldiers' fears, it appeared possible that the Hezb-e Eslami, which acknowledges its goal of attracting worldwide opinion to the occupation of Afghanistan, might not execute the three prisoners. Observers noted that a Hezb-e Eslamic splinter group led by the Mullah (religious leader) Yunes Khales had contacted Soviet authorities through the International Red Cross, seeking to exchange a Soviet geologist, Mikhail Okrimyuk, for 50 Afghans in Kabul.

They also said the main Hezb-e Eslami, a fundamentalist group seeking to promote the Islamic revolution, could be inspired by the Koran, which requires humane treatment of prisoners.

Mr Didenko said the Soviets have suffered heavy losses in their two years in Afghanistan. Before being transferred to the Allah Jirga region, he said he had seen coffins bearing the bodies of sentinels and personnel from armored units attached to a base in Baghram, north of Kabul, where he was a mechanic.

Before he was sent here, "they were speaking often about the victims of the Afghanistan war," Mr Didenko said, adding that the explanation for his mobilization was that "we're fighting Afghans who are enemies of the revolution."

Like his fellow detainees, he claimed never to have been involved in fighting. "I was picking oranges in a grove when the mujahidin captured me," he said.

The conditions under which the three prisoners were being held appeared to have deteriorated since Mr Povarnitsin and Mr Yazkuliev were last seen in September by an AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE correspondent. Then allowed to play volleyball with the rebels, they are now held in a single tiny cell for all but a few minutes per day. All three added, however, that they had not been mistreated.

Neither Mr Didenko nor Mr Povarnitsin -- who claims to be a non-practising Christian -- have renounced the Soviet Union, and both would return if released, their captors acknowledged.

After the Soviets were returned to their cell, the commander of the Allah Jirga camp, Zafaruddin Khan, brought out three Soviet Moslems from Tadzhikistan, who he said were fighting alongside the Afghan rebels. They had fled their country "because they could not practice their religion," he said. The three said most of the population in the Asian regions of the southern Soviet Union still were believers in Islam, and that "Marxism had taken hold only in the cities. They said they were about to be drafted when they fled the Soviet Union.

KARACHI PAPER REPORTS SOVIET ATTACK ON BAZAAR

GF210552 Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 17 Dec 81 p 6

[Text] London, 16 Dec (AGENCE AFGHAN PRESSE) -- Soviet forces have attacked a village bazaar, killed 35 persons and wounded more than a hundred. The attacking Soviet forces have razed the temporarily erected stalls to the ground by means of tanks and armored vehicles and have looted the goods.

This dreadful incident has taken place in the recently liberated Chahar Dehi subdivision of the northern Province of Qonduz. AGENCE AFGHAN PRESSE sources from Qonduz report that in the subdivision, 15 km south of Qonduz, the mujahidin had the upper hand and Karmal's government officers had abandoned their offices and left.

A bazaar is held every Monday under the supervision of the village elders' people's committee whereby the people of the area conduct the sale and purchase of their requirements. Officials of the Karmal administration had informed their Soviet masters of the fact that the weekly bazaar is the main source of supplies to the mujahidin.

Therefore, when the village bazaar was in full swing and more than 500 persons were present, Soviet officers in three tanks and armored vehicles surrounded the bazaar. The people were stunned at being taken unawares and the Soviets opened up a volley of gun fire and trampled the bazaar with their tanks.

Six mujahidin who happened to be present put up resistance, but all six were martyred fighting. Eleven Soviet officers were wounded during the attack. The operation lasted an hour, after which the Soviet forces returned to their headquarters in Qonduz.

The Soviet forces have also begun large-scale operations against mujahidin in the precincts of Kabul in an attempt to block their entry into Kabul.

PAKISTAN CONFEDERATION PROPOSAL REPORT DENIED

BK210915 Dacca Domestic Service in English 0835 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] A Foreign Office spokesman has refuted the report appearing in a local weekly that a proposal for confederation with Pakistan is likely to feature in the official talks to be held during President Sattar's visit to Saudi Arabia.

Describing the report as totally baseless a Foreign Office spokesman said the president is going to Saudi Arabia on a friendly visit at the invitation of King Khalid. The visit reflects close fraternal ties between the two countries and it will also provide the president with an opportunity to visit Mecca and Medina.

DPRK VICE PREMIER HOLDS TALKS IN DACCA

BK171318 Dacca Domestic Service in Bengali 1200 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Text] Visiting DPRK Vice Premier So Kwan-hui called on Deputy Prime Minister Jamaluddin Ahmed in Dacca today and discussed Bangladesh's development strategy. They also discussed cooperation between the two countries in the fields of agriculture and industry. They believed that their countries can benefit from each other's experience. So Kwan-hui, who is chairman of the Agricultural Commission, also met Agriculture Minister Fasiuddin Mahtab.

The DPRK vice premier later visited the machine tools factory and [word indistinct] plant at Jaidevpur, about 20 miles from the capital.

Ends Visit

BK181715 Hong Kong AFP in English 1513 GMT 18 Dec 81

[Text] Dacca, 18 Dec (AFP) -- North Korean Deputy Premier So Kwan-hui left here today for home at the end of a week-long visit to Bangladesh during which he signed a bilateral agreement establishing a joint commission on agricultural cooperation.

Mr So, who is also chairman of North Korea's Agricultural Commission, told a pre-departure press conference that his visit had been "very successful and beneficial" for both countries.

North Korea and Bangladesh are trying to boost further their friendly and cooperative relations, he said, adding that he had exchanged views with Bangladeshi leaders on prospects for increased cooperation in agriculture, industry and other fields. Mr So also indicated that 30 tractor-pumps -- a gift from North Korean President Kim Il-song -- would be shipped to Dacca soon and voiced his country's readiness to train 10 to 15 Bangladesh agro-technicians.

On Pyongyang's proposals for reunification of the divided Korean Peninsula, he said reunification was Seoul's "supreme national task" but stressed that a reunified Korea should become nonaligned and not belong to any politico-military bloc.

SATTAR GREETS BREZHNEV ON 75TH BIRTHDAY

BK191242 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1205 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Text] President Abdus Sattar has felicitated President Leonid Brezhnev of the Soviet Union on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of his birth. In his message, President Sattar wished good health, long life and happiness of President Brezhnev. President Sattar also expressed his confidence that the existing friendly relations between the two countries will be further strengthened in the years to come.

PAKISTANI ENVOY CONFIRMS TROOP DEPLOYMENT

BK181603 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 18 Dec 81

[Text] Pakistan's Ambassador at Large A.K. Brohi has confirmed that his country has deployed the bulk of its troops along the Indian border. In an interview with the UNITED NEWS OF INDIA in New Delhi, Brohi justified Pakistan's action on the grounds that the people could have otherwise accused the government of complacency, as he put it.

Embassy Denial

BK190804 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Text] The Pakistan Embassy in New Delhi had denied that the Pakistani ambassador at large, A.K. Brohi, stated that his country had deployed a bulk of its troops along the Indian border. UNITED NEWS OF INDIA has quoted Brohi as having said this in an interview in New Delhi yesterday.

INDIAN ENVOY TO CARRY MESSAGE TO PAKISTAN

BK211318 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] Indian Ambassador in Islamabad Natwar Singh, now in New Delhi for consultation, will be returning in a couple of days with a communication from the Government of India to the Government of Pakistan. He had a meeting with Mrs Gandhi again today. While there is no official word about the nature of the communication being sent to Pakistan, the All-India radio correspondent says the Government of India has been examining the substantive manner in which Pakistan's so-called offer of a no-war pact should be considered.

Foreign Minister Narasimha Rao chaired a meeting of the senior officials yesterday to assess the various implications of the Pakistani proposal.

GANDHI ON BELIEF IN FRIENDSHIP WITH PAKISTAN

BK211610 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi has said that the people in India are upset at the frequent talk in Pakistan about taking revenge in India. She termed as utter nonsense the allegation that she was not reconciled to the fact of Pakistan's existence.

Mrs Gandhi made these observations in a letter to a foreign leader. She reiterated her firm belief in friendship with Pakistan and indeed with all neighboring countries pointing out that our basic problems are common. Cooperation between us would be of immense help to both the countries. Mrs Gandhi said a stable subcontinent linked by understanding, friendship and cooperation can be a force for peace in the world. She recalled her initiatives for better relations with Pakistan. Mrs Gandhi pointed out that External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao found the people as a whole to be friendly when he visited Pakistan in June last. But within 2 days of his return, Pakistan announced that it would acquire large quantities of sophisticated arms.

GANDHI ON OPPOSITION, ECONOMY, EVENTS IN POLAND

BK211316 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] The prime minister regretted that the opposition parties are not cooperating with the government even on issues of national importance.

Addressing today the end of session meeting of the Congress-I parliamentary party, Mrs Gandhi criticized the opposition move to organize a bharat bundh [strike] next month. She asked the ruling party members of Parliament to resist such a move and urged them to go back to their constituencies and tell the people of the various constructive measures taken by the government to improve the economy.

Referring to the price situation, Mrs Gandhi said the government has succeeded by and large in controlling the prices of essential commodities. The number of fair price shops has been increased and the supply position is now more comfortable.

The prime minister said some opposition parties are making false propaganda that the government wants the war. We do not want any such thing. However, the country should be prepared for any eventuality and we cannot allow ourselves to remain weak.

Referring to strike, the prime minister cited the example of Japan and said if teachers there want to protest on some issues they would go on strike only during the vacation. People in India can also put forth their demands without hampering production and work, she said.

About the happenings in Poland, Mrs Gandhi said India's stand is that there should be no interference from outside. She hoped that the people of Poland will be able to solve their own problems.

ARAB ENVOYS MEET GANDHI TO DISCUSS GOLAN

BK210931 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] Arab ambassadors in New Delhi have expressed their countries' appreciation on the stand India has taken on the Israeli annexation of the Golan Heights. Envoys of six Arab countries met Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi today and conveyed their appreciation to her. They also apprised her of the present situation in west Asia following the Israeli action.

Ambassadors told newsmen after their meeting with Mrs Gandhi that they had also discussed Indo-Arab relations with her and conveyed their countries' keenness to improve them further. They said Mrs Gandhi had assured them of India's continued and firm support to the Arab cause.

Ambassadors were from Jordan, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, Syria, the Arab League and the PLO.

SOVIET DEPUTY FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER ARRIVES

BK211320 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] Soviet Deputy Minister for Foreign Trade Grishin arrived in New Delhi today. He is heading a trade delegation which will discuss and sign the Indo-Soviet trade protocol for 1982-83.

Speaking at the airport, he expressed satisfaction at the growth of trade between the two countries.

PARLIAMENT SPEAKER PRAISES BANGLADESH RELATIONS

BK190806 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Text] The Lok Sabha speaker, Balram Jakhar, has said that the constructive collaboration between India and Bangladesh will lead to positive results and give a new dimension to the existing relations. Jakhar was speaking at a banquet hosted by him in honor of his Bangladesh counterpart, Mirza Ghulam Hafiz, in New Delhi last night.

Hafiz, who is leading the 7-member parliamentary delegation, also spoke on regional cooperation.

SIKH ORGANIZATION PRESIDENT ASSASSINATED

BK220653 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 22 Dec 81

[Text] President of the Delhi Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee [Delhi Sikh Managing Committee] Jathedar Santok Singh was shot dead in New Delhi last night. He was 52. The alleged assassin, Sohan Singh Sandhu, a member of the Prabandhak committee, was also shot dead, allegedly by the bodyguard of the Jathedar Dhanna Singh.

According to police sources, Jathedar Santok Singh was shot at point blank near a gurdwara in West Delhi. He had gone there to address a religious congregation. He sustained three bullet injuries and was rushed to All-India Institute of Medical Sciences where he was declared dead.

Police officials are interrogating the jathedar's bodyguard. According to agency reports, Sohan Singh Sandhu had differences with the jathedar following the election of office bearers of the Delhi Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee.

The prime minister was among those who rushed to the hospital on hearing the tragic news. She was accompanied by Home Minister Zail Singh and Rajiv Gandhi. Mrs Gandhi was expressed shock over the assassination. Zail Singh has strongly condemned the cult of violence which he said would only harm the interest of the Pant [Sikh organization] and the country.

The body of Jathedar Santok Singh will be cremated at Nigambodh Ghat this afternoon.

PRESIDENT'S RULE IN ASSAM EXTENDED FOR 6 MONTHS

BK211637 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] The Lok Sabha today adopted the official resolution approving the extension of president's rule in Assam by another 6 months from the 30th of this month. The house also approved another resolution declaring as essential services generation and distribution of power in the state.

The supplementary demands for grants for Assam along with appropriation bill was also passed.

Earlier, replying to the 4-hour discussion Minister of State for Home Affairs Yogendra Makwana said the government is determined to solve the Assam problem. He denied opposition criticism of any attitude of confrontation saying that 14 rounds of talks have been held with the agitation leaders. The opposition leaders have also been taken into confidence.

Referring to the latest proposals of the agitation leaders, he said these are extreme demands and the government cannot accept them. Some of them suggest amendment to the citizenship act and the constitution itself.

ANALYST COMMENTS ON BORDER TALKS WITH PRC

BK181401 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1340 GMT 18 Dec 81

[Commentary on Sino-Indian talks by K.M. Ramachandran, political analyst of the institute of defense studies]

[Text] The 5-day Sino-Indian talks, which concluded in Beijing on 14 December, constituted a step forward in improving bilateral relations between India and China in different spheres and in seeking a just settlement of the border question.

The cautious optimism expressed at the end of the talks, particularly the statement made by the Indian Embassy's spokesman in Beijing that the two sides would strengthen bilateral relations in various fields while finding ways to settle the border question, is indicative of the progress achieved at the first session of the official-level talks between the two sides.

The agreement to hold the official-level talks was reached when China's Foreign Minister Huang Hua visited India in June this year. The talks were originally scheduled to be held in October last, but owing to India's other commitments in the international arena the talks were rescheduled for December.

The talks were not exclusively devoted to finding a solution to the phony border question. The composition of the Indian delegation, which included officials from cultural and commercial spheres, itself suggested that while finding a just solution to the border question remained the cardinal concern of India, it is desirous of developing relations in other fields, such as trade and culture.

The talks were held in a cordial atmosphere. A statement issued by the Chinese Foreign Ministry at the end of the talks underlined the amicable nature of the discussion between the two sides. It admitted that there was a frank and friendly exchange of views on the boundary question. On the positive side, it added that the talks were useful because it clearly brought out the differences between the two sides. It said that several rounds of discussions are needed to find a solution to the border question.

This is the crux of the issue. The border question remains to be solved. The progress achieved in this sphere is related to India identifying all over again differences between the two sides, though Beijing has not basically shifted away from the position of arriving at a solution on the border question on the basis of an existing status quo. This situation, which came about as a result of China's shifting border claims since the mid-50's and the initiation of a border conflict in 1962, cannot constitute a basis for any meaningful border settlement.

The package deal proposed by Vice Chairman Deng Xiaoping in 1979 and the three principles, namely, the historical background, the current situation and the national feelings of the two people as a basis for border talks, proposed by Foreign Minister Huang Hua at New Delhi in June 1981 have essentially been efforts at legitimizing the status quo on the border.

India has time and again refuted this view. The Beijing talks had provided an occasion to clarify and explain the Indian point of view and to emphasize the need for flexibility in China's approach toward the border question at formal and official levels.

No breakthrough was achieved in the talks regarding the border question. However, the decision to continue the dialogue in the future is an indication that India will explore all avenues to bring about by peaceful means a change in the Chinese perceptions on the border question. Thus, the moot point is the need for a shift in Beijing's stand. As India's External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao stated in the Parliament the other day, it is India's desire to normalize relations with China. This is only possible when we can bring about complete resolution of our problems as well as stable relations in every field.

However, some progress was indeed achieved in the sphere of expanding relations in the other fields. This has created an environment for continuing the border dialogue in the future.

One may say that the bilateral talks should essentially be seen as making a beginning to realize the goal of a rational and structured coexistence between the two countries in a changing world.

Leader of the Indian delegation Eric Gonsalves remarked at the official banquet in his honor at Beijing that the aim of his delegation was to see (?how) our relations could be strengthened and expanded and our problems solved. We have no way to go other than forward. Future bilateral talks would show to what extent China is willing to go forward.

BROHI REMARKS 'DISTORTED' BY INDIAN AGENCY

BK200849 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 20 Dec 81

[Text] The Pakistani Embassy in New Delhi has said in a statement that there has been neither an increase in Pakistani troops along the border nor any concentration of troops in any particular area. Neither has there been any change in the deployment of troops in recent months. The statement said the embassy absolutely refutes all the allegations made by UNITED NEWS OF INDIA recently.

Pakistan's Ambassador at Large A.K. Brohi has expressed deep sorrow over the distorted reports by UNITED NEWS OF INDIA which quoted him as saying that the bulk of Pakistan's troops have been concentrated along the border.

In a news item broadcast by All-India radio, Brohi was quoted as having said that this step was necessary in view of Mrs Gandhi's statements about the dangers of war. Brohi said in New Delhi that he neither made such a statement nor gave any interview to the UNITED NEWS OF INDIA correspondent. He said this correspondent was present only during an informal meeting with a person who called on me. He said he did not discuss any of the existing problems between India and Pakistan.

COAST GUARDS SEIZE 20 STEN GUNS IN RAID

GF181102 Karachi DAWN in English 14 Dec 81 p 10

[By our staff reporter]

[Text] As many as 20 country-made Sten-guns with live magazines were seized from a house in Ibrahim Hyderi by Pakistan Coast Guards [PCG] on Saturday.

Brig Zulfiqar Akbar Naqvi, director-general of PCG, told newsmen at a press conference yesterday that on Dec 12 at about 2 a.m. an information was received that a "sizeable quantity" of arms and ammunition had been brought to Karachi for "distribution amongst anti-state elements".

A special party, led by Lt.-Col Khalid Mahmud, raided a house and seized 20 Sten-guns hidden in gunny bags. Three persons, the identity of whom was not disclosed, were arrested. Investigations are in progress.

Brig Zulfiqar announced a cash reward of Rs. 10,000 for the special party.

Replying to a question, he said the Sten-guns did not bear any mark of manufacturer. "It is a surmise that they might have been brought into the city from Darra."

BRIEFS

URANIUM DEPOSITS -- It is being speculated that vast reserves of uranium exist in the granite rocks of Pakistan's Mekran District that are mostly sedimentary and metamorphic and according to experts the kind known to contain uranium. A radiological survey of the area is expected to be undertaken. [Karachi NAWA-E-WAQT in Urdu 8 Dec 81 p 1 GF]

MUSAVI INTERVIEWED ON WAR, RELATIONS, ECONOMY

LD212002 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Excerpts] Mr Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, prime minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, today spoke in an interview on the future of the war with Iraq, Iran's relations with the countries of the region and the nation's economic future.

Commenting on the future of the war, the premier said: From the beginning of the war we were victorious in an Islamic sense and now, by enjoying Islamic morale and the evolution of Islamic thoughts among the people, we are in a more superior position. The unity between the armed forces, the Revolution Guards Corps and other forces has created a might unprecedented anywhere in the world. Through their unity and faith, our combatants are overcoming the enemy's warfare technology. The blow which started in Bostan will continue. As the nation's imam has said, Saddam either has to start thinking of fleeing to Paris, establishing a government-in-exile and holding press conferences, or he will be toppled by the Iraqi people's uprising. Of course, we also expect that the United States may have a contingency plan such as the contingency they enforced here by appointing someone like Bakhtiar to replace Saddam's regime.

The premier was asked to elaborate on the effect of recent war victories on Iran's international relations. The premier replied: Apparently those governments who have been waiting to see the conclusion of the war are now beginning to express a desire for closer links with our country. The bitter reality in the unjust international relations is that right is compared with victory, not with noble yardsticks. However, there are countries who had their fingers crossed for a Saddam victory and thought victory would be on his side, because the Iraqis have a complicated technology. They thought that ultimately Iraq would be victorious in this war through the support given to Saddam by the reactionary regimes of the region and by the superpowers' blessing. But this dream did not come true and now some of these countries, despite U.S. pressure, are acting more realistically, although there are smaller countries in the region who cannot calculate the future correctly. These countries, encouraged by the United States and in fear of Saddam, are continuing to stand beside the Iraqi regime. Nevertheless, these countries, too, will one day come to recognize the realities.

The prime minister reiterated: I warn these countries that their ports and roads are under our careful observation and we do have knowledge of your treasons and have them under our careful observation. We are counting their treasonous actions. It is better to stop supporting the bankrupt regime of Iraq. Neither the United States nor Saudi Arabia nor the regime of Saddam can protect your independence. These so-called councils which you have formed are no more than a balloon in front of our nation's will which has risen in the name of Islam. It would be advisable for you to be perceptive and to realize that your independence is geared to friendship with our revolutionary regime. We have no designs on your independence and your integrity. We do not want to swallow you like Iraq or like the United States. We are not after your dollars, nor are we after the Bubiyan Island or any other part of your lands. However, I am sorry to see that the Saddam regime has plundered billions of dollars from a small country such as Kuwait. Do they not see the effects of such actions? These actions not only darken their relations with Iran -- a powerful, Islamic neighbor -- but they should think ahead and see that they will not be able to get back even a cent from the next Iraqi regime which will come into power after Saddam's regime collapses.

The prime minister was asked to comment on international propaganda machinery which alleges that Iran is exporting its revolution by the use of force and is interfering in the internal affairs of the regional countries.

The prime minister replied: This is U.S. propaganda. No doubt it is in the interest of those countries whose population is not more than few hundred thousand -- and even these few hundreds support the Iranian Islamic revolution for the sake of Islam -- not to become the U.S. spokesmen in the region.

We are for peace and stability in the Persian Gulf region but not at the price of the United States dominating the region. If they declare their tendency for this and stop helping Saddam's regime, they will see that Iran is their friend. Yet if they have decided to be with the United States, it is natural to see a hostile reaction by these Muslim nations. I would like to declare once again that the formation of such councils under the direction and the leadership of the United States is not in the interest of these small countries. Their interest lies in turning their backs to the superpowers and in friendship with the Islamic revolution of Iran.

The next question put to the prime minister concerned the nation's economic situation, to which he replied: Very briefly, we are on the verge of a true and real economic independence. This is the auspicious outcome of the war and the U.S. economic sanction. We are passing through a stage of limbo to a new state. Signs of this new period are already emerging. Of course, like any other deep development, there are pressures on the people but we should remember that our dependence on oil has been reduced from 6 million barrels a day to 1 million. This is due to the revolution.

The prime minister added: We are certain that if we continue to resist, a period of blossom will be forthcoming. If we try, we can reach a state of self-sufficiency in the field of wheat production in the coming years. There are clear pictures of self-sufficiency in the fields of infrastructure at hand. The government is giving heavy industry special attention and has prepared extensive programs for the mines in order to make them productive. Increasing the production of steel and copper is a priority and most of all our regime has been blessed with such initiative that we can counter any crisis resulting from the superpowers' political and economical conspiracies.

Commenting on the country's general state of security, the prime minister said: The hypocrites have been weakened. This is due to the unprecedented presence of the people on the scene. In guerrilla warfare, the people form a guerrilla forest and hide and help them. This is so providing the guerrilla is not linked to the foreigners, the United States and other devilish powers. The reason behind the defeat of the hypocrites and other minigroups lies in the fact that they have stood against the people's real wishes for a true Islam and a true independence. We all know that the members of these minigroups are being arrested by the people themselves. The network of the 36-million-strong intelligentsia has stopped such movements from growing.

We might suffer some martyrdom but we will never, ever, witness these minigroups growing. These groups are taking their last breaths.

Revealing the government's planning and programs in this field the prime minister said that the Plan and Budget Organization has embarked upon a vast program under the auspices of the prime minister's office [as heard]. At the moment 10 committees, in which the Majlis deputies and other official organs are members, are working, and a seminar in this connection has been convened. We shall name next year [starting 21 March 1982] as the year of planning and hope our next year's budget will be written within the framework of long-term planning. I guess if the trend enjoys a desirable acceleration, we will be able to announce our first 5-year program next year and present the nation with a general outlook for the next 20 years.

The final question put to the premier concerned the speaker of the Majlis' recent remarks on the government and the prime minister was asked if he had any comment to make. Mr Musavi replied: What is important is the oneness of the Majlis and the government on one hand and the two bodies' different tasks on the other hand [sentence as heard]. The Majlis must make and give notice and the government too must pay attention to revolution and the people's representatives and to clear any possible vague points.

Musavi on Israeli-U.S. Accords

NC211540 Paris AFP in English 1524 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] Tehran, 21 Dec (AFP) -- Iranian Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi today cast doubts on any break-up of the Israeli-U.S. strategic accords, asserting that no "imperialist-Zionist alliance could be destroyed."

Mr Musavi, in an interview in the ISLAMIC REPUBLIC newspaper today, said that any such break "was aimed at duping public opinion.

"America and Israel," he continued, "imperialism and Zionism, are two facets of the same coin. In fact, the alliance of imperialism and Zionism cannot be destroyed, for the fall of one would mean the fall of the other.

The Saudi Mid-East plan may have prompted Israel's annexation of Golan, added Mr Musavi, but Syria's non-participation in the Arab conference at Fes, Morocco, last month also "provoked Israel to bare her teeth."

He also denied what he called "allegations by the Iraqi regime," claiming that Iran and Syria were responsible for the explosion at the Iraqi Embassy in Beirut on December 15, adding: "We do not need to take such terrorist action. As long as our people are defeating the Iraqi regime ... we do not have to plant bombs."

TUDEH PARTY DENOUNCES GOLAN ANNEXATION

JN211533 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1520 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] Tehran, 21 Dec (SANA) -- The Iranian communist Tudeh Party Central Committee has issued a statement strongly condemning the Zionist enemy decision to annex the occupied Syrian heights and stressing the need to curb the Zionist arrogance in the area.

In its statement, which was published today in MARDOM, the Tudeh Party organ, the Central Committee expresssed its solidarity with Arab Syria and support for the Syrian people's struggle against the Zionist expansionist step. The committee asserted that the decision to annex the Golan was the fruit of extensive consultations between the Zionist entity and the U.S. administration. It urged all the progressive states and forces to end the Zionist and U.S. imperialist arrogance.

OIL MINISTER, LIBYAN AMBASSADOR MEET 20 DEC

GF201930 Tehran PARS in English 1855 GMT 20 Dec 81

[Text] Tehran, 20 Dec (PARS NEWS AGENCY) -- The head of the committee of the Libyan People's Bureau in Tehran, Sa'd Mujbir, met with Iranian Oil Minister Gharazi in Tehran today. During their meeting the two officials discussed ways and means for mutual cooperation between the two countries in oil and petrochemical industries.

REVOLUTIONARY INSTITUTIONS OFFICE CREATED

LD191940 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Text] Mr Esma'il Davudi, the deputy prime minister in charge of the institutions of the Islamic revolution, explained in a press conference this morning the duties and policies of this new office recently opened at the prime ministry building. He gave details of future programs of this office in connection with revolutionary institutions. We draw your attention to the interview which the deputy prime minister gave to our colleague:

[Begin recording] [Question] Mr Davudi, would you please tell us what is the aim of establishing this new post and what will the deputy prime minister in charge of the institutions of the Islamic revolution do?

[Answer] In the name of God, the compassonate, the merciful. In order to continue the glorious Islamic revolution and in order to realize the aspirations of martyrs of the revolution, one of the basic programs of the government is to develop and expand revolutionary institutions and make an effort to further the formation, purification and progress of the institutions. For this purpose this new office was opened in the Prime Ministry building. The aim is to continue the work of the martyr Raja'i's government. The aim is also to create a permanent and organic link with revolutionary institutions and to increase cooperation, coordination and support from the government for revolutionary institutions.

[Question] Please tell us about the method you will adopt to implement your plans?

[Answer] For the formation, cohesiveness and coordination of the revolutionary institutions and for their growth and expansion, by employing experiences gained from revolutionary movements in these institutions we would first like to clarify the state and condition of the institutions and the contacts between these institutions and the legislative and judicial powers and the government. For this purpose it is necessary to prepare a legal constitution for these institutions, to be approved by the Islamic Consultative Assembly. Our work is to help the institutions in the preparation of these constitutions and its articles and to pursue the matter until they are approved.

The next task is to carry out the administrative and executive tasks of these institutions. In fact, we organize the link between the revolutionary institutions and the executive branch. Our other job will be to organize consultations to prevent confusion and repetition and create understanding and familiarity among the institutions.

We will also receive people's complaints about the institutions and pass them on to the courts, to inspection departments and to the civil service tribunal. We shall follow these complaints until we obtain a reply.

The most important task is to compile the methods experienced by the revolutionary institutions, the Islamic management system which they have tried, the spiritual, cultural and political methods experienced by the establishments. [sentence as heard] We will then replace the former methods in ministries and administrative offices with these new methods. Instead of the former satanic methods and inhibiting rules we will bring these new methods.

[Question] So this new post of deputy prime minister is a [word indistinct].

[Answer] Yes, this office will not be a supervisory office. The issue of supervision over the revolutionary institutions, their independence or dependence on various organizations will be determined in rules and articles which will be submitted to the Majlis. Things might be different at that stage. The task of the new deputy is advisory, in the creation of relations between the revolutionary institutions and the government. [end recording]

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE 736

LD211800 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Communique 736 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. In fighting and operations on one of the Gilan-e Gharb fronts which took place on 19 December, the powerful combatants of Islam, composed of the army and the Guards Corps, while capturing new positions, struck effective blows at the enemy and destroyed truckload of troops and several equipment stores and observation posts belonging to the Iraqi forces.

Sporadic fighting continued yesterday on most of the western fronts, with exchanges of artillery and heavy-weapon fire. On the Gilan-e Gharb front, particularly at Qasemabad, the fighting was fiercest. The self-sacrificing personnel of the ground forces stationed on that front successfully repulsed the enemy fire, which started at dawn yesterday. Enemy losses and casualties on these fronts included six trucks and their crew, one munitions dump, two machinegun emplacements and a fuel depot. About 245 of the enemy were killed or wounded in this region.

In addition, artillery shelling by the ground forces on enemy positions in the Tutmal region set fire to four trenches and a fuel depot, and at least 10 Saddamists were killed or wounded.

On the fronts west of Dezful, the combatants of the ground forces killed 14 of the Saddamist forces, destroyed a number of enemy trenches, personnel, equipment and observation posts, and, on the Dasht-e 'Abbas front, inflicted losses and damages on a column of motorized enemy troops.

Sporadic exchanges of artillery and mortar fire continued on the Susangerd, Bostan, Abadan and Khuninshahr fronts yesterday. On the Bostan front a motorized enemy column was routed and a large number of the enemy killed.

In fighting on 19 December, 14 selfless members of the Ground Forces and three of the combatants of the Gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran achieved the honor of martyrdom.

IRANIANS CONTROL 'SEVERAL' IRAQI CITIES

LD201822 Tehran PARS in English 1032 GMT 20 Dec 81

[Text] Tehran, 20 Dec (PARS NEWS AGENCY) -- Deputy Commander of the western military operations Colonel (Kuchekzadeh) announced this morning that several cities of Iraq were under the domination of the combatants of the Islamic Republic of Iran. If the Iraqi regime continued its aggressions, Iranian forces would enter the cities of Iraq, he added.

Colonel (Kuchekzadeh), in an interview with reporters in Kermanshah, outlined the victorious 'Daybreak' operations which resulted in the recapturing of several strategic heights in the western areas. Referring to the unsuccessful tricks of the enemy, he said after this victory Iranian forces were ready to enter the Iraqi territory whenever the imam ordered.

IRAQI REPORTS OF HEAVY IRANIAN CASUALTIES DENIED

LD211610 Tehran PARS in English 1448 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] Tehran, 21 Dec (PARS) -- The Foreign Affairs Ministry spokesman, Reza 'Ali Tabataba'i, denied claims of Ba'thist regime of Saddam concerning heavy casualties suffered by the Iranian forces in the western warfronts and called on the International Red Cross officials to visit the western areas of the country.

Tabataba'i, who was speaking to PARS, further added that the Iraqi regime, which was at the brink of collapsing, had recently resorted to a host of new plots to preserve itself, including such a claim. He stressed that the advances made by the Iranian forces in the war fronts had been proven even to the representatives of foreign news agencies who had visited the western areas. While calling the victories of the Islamic forces of Iran astonishing, these reporters had estimated casualties suffered by the Iraqi army as being some hundreds, he added.

The Foreign Affairs Ministry spokesman continued that the Islamic Republic of Iran also urged the Red Cross representatives to give a positive response to the request of Saddam's regime to come to Iran to visit the western part of the country so that it would become clear whether it were the Iranian forces which had suffered a huge number of casualties or the Iraqis.

Speaking about the discovery of an explosive stockpile inside the Iraqi Embassy in Beirut and a series of other bomb blasts which have happened in Beirut, Tabataba'i referred to a previous statement of the ministry concerning assassinations and crimes that embassies of Saddam were carrying out abroad under the diplomatic cover and added that the report prepared by the special inquiry team to discover the reasons behind the bombing in Beirut approved the existence of a large amount of explosive materials inside the embassy and also approved the view of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

He further continued the mercenary regime of Iraq had been involved in various explosions which had recently happened in Beirut and other parts of Lebanon resulting in the martyrdom of innocent people, and that the Ba'thist regime, along with the regime occupying Al-Quds, had been using its efforts to crush the oppressed of Lebanon and the resistance of Palestinians.

TWO HELICOPTER PILOTS REPORTEDLY FLEE TO TURKEY

GF211651 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] Two combatant and nationalist army Airborne Division pilots escaped to Turkey yesterday using a helicopter to leave Khomeyni's Islamic hell. They landed in (?the vicinity) of Van in Turkey. They are Capt 'Ali Hashemi and 1st Lt Mohammad Taha.

The Iranian pilots gave themselves up to Turkish authorities immediately upon arrival in Van and announced that they will be asking the French Government for political asylum. The two officers told Turkish authorities that they were under suspicion by the mullahs since they cooperated with the forces fighting the regime and were in danger of arrest and execution. The two pilots added that they will join military nationalist organizations outside the country to continue their struggle against Khomeyni's regime.

The Turkish Government announced that the request for aslyum by the Iranian pilots is under consideration. A decision will be announced within the next 2 days.

This is one of many instances of escape abroad by patriotic and freedom-seeking Iranian pilots using aircraft.

'COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES' KILLED IN SAQQEZ

LD180034 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 17 Dec 81

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report from Sanandaj, during a series of coordinated operations yesterday morning the self-sacrificing brother guards, with the cooperation of the native [as heard] guards from Saqqez, succeeded in cleansing three villages in the Saqqez region of the filthy bandits and counterrevolutionaries.

During these operations, 20 of the counterrevolutionaries were killed and a large number of them were wounded. The remainder of the counterrevolutionaries fled, leaving behind several dead accomplices.

During the above operations, 10 of the counterrevolutionaries were arrested and our forces captured 6 weapons, including G-3, Kalashnikov and Brno rifles and a considerable quantity of ammunition.

According to this report, the artillery fire of the Guards Corps destroyed two jeeps belonging to the American mercenaries, while they were trying to escape, and one 50-mm gun emplacement together with its crew.

RADIO IRAN: GUARDS ATTACK TRIBE IN AZARBAYJAN

GF211640 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] A bloody clash has been reported in the Kurdish regions of Western Azarbayjan. On the basis of reports reaching Radio Iran, on Friday the plundering, thieving guards of Khomeyni attacked the Dari tribe in the Seru region close to Reza'iyeh. They were confronted by the heroic resistance of the zealous Kurdish tribes. In the clash the Dari tribe's peshmerga, led by Jahangir Dari, were able to destroy over 40 of the Khomeyni regime's guards. The rest fled the scene.

KDP POLITICAL BUREAU RELEASES IRANIAN NCO'S

JN191539 (Clandestine) Voice of Iranian Kordestan in Surani Kurdish 1230 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Excerpt] A statement by the Political Bureau of the Kurdish Democratic Party [KDP]: Honorable citizens, militant Kurdish people: The KDP Political Bureau has decided on the occasion of the successes of the party's fifth conference to release 11 NCO's and soldiers arrested in the battlefield during fighting.

The release of those soldiers will further prove that the families and relatives of the soldiers do not want the Khomeyni regime to send their sons to Kordestan to fight the Kurdish people.

FORMER MOJAHEDIN URGES OTHERS TO REPENT

LD202214 Tehran PARS in English 1757 GMT 20 Dec 81

[Text] Tehran, 20 Dec (PARS NEWS AGENCY) -- A former member of the outlawed Mojahedin-e Khalq organisation (MKO) in Tehran yesterday urged members of the organisation to reconcile themselves with the Islamic revolution and return to the fold of the nation. 'Ali Mo'infar, a one-time member of the organisation arrested on August 12, (not to be confused with a one-time oil minister with similar name, sharply criticised the stance of the Mojahedin-e Khalq vis-a-vis the Islamic revolution and said that the organisation has been with, and is still sympathetic with, the group of pro-U.S. liberals.

The former member of the organisation, who was giving a radio and television interview, said that the organisation which claims to be supporters of the oppressed and downtrodden people of Iran, is in fact partial to the monarchical system and to the well-to-do monarchists in upper Tehran. He also criticised ousted President Bani-Sadr for having appointed a number of counterrevolutionary personalities, such as General Baqeri as commander of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and in other positions inside his administration.

He said the organisation regards the group of the well-to-do liberals and wealthy class as its true supporters, while it accused the Iranian leaders of having compromised the nation in secret dealings with the United States.

He added, however, that after the United States had been defeated in many of its subversive plots against the Islamic Republic of Iran and once the U.S. had concluded that the Islamic Revolution of Iran would be exported to other countries, it instigated Saddam Husayn to invade Iranian territory, while the Mojahedin-e Khalq organisation had remained totally indifferent to the on-going war. He said "while our brothers were giving their blood in the battlefronts, our friends in the MKO were creating tumults and riots in various cities inside Iran."

Meanwhile it has been learned that Iraqi labour minister said in the current non-aligned labour ministers conference held in Baghdad that the Iraqi Government was ready to stop its aid to the MKO if Iran accepted the Iraqi-proposed cease-fire. He added that the MKO had been in effect implementing the plans of U.S. imperialism in Iran.

The former member of the MKO declared that he had disavowed his earlier convictions in connection with the Islamic revolution and the role of the ulema in the wake of later studies and without being the least compelled to do so. He added while the organisation had been directly responsible for many terrorist acts and bombings here and there it had disclaimed having any hand in such incidents and had repeatedly blamed them on "foreign elements." He urged the present activists in the organisation to think independently about the wave of the incidents after the Islamic revolution and conclude why many leaders of the organisation, such as Mas'ud Rajavi and others, had fled to Western countries which were enemies of the Islamic revolution and why had they not fled to other countries with revolutionary regimes. He also urged his former comrades to ponder a little further why such imperialistic world powers as the U.S. Government have somehow supported the outlawed organisation.

He noted that a former member of the MKO who had voluntarily paid a visit to Ayatollah Montazeri after having long insisted to get permission from the organisation, was later labelled as a 'rightist' element after he had visited and talked to the ayatollah. Asked about why members of the MKO often learn about the U.S. hands in riotous terroristic acts in Iran only after they have been arrested, he said that this is true because members of the MKO are given schedule which fills their 24 hours of daily life without allowing them a single minute to think independently about the dictates and inculcations of the MKO's policy makers.

He urged the members of the MKO to put down their arms, to respond positively to the call of Imam Khomeyni, to surrender themselves to the Islamic Republic and to return to the fold of Islam before it might be too late. Asked whether he had objected the ruling of the Islamic revolutionary court in his case he said that the court had issued the ruling in strict observance of Islamic codes and that he had accepted the ruling because it had been within the confines of Islamic principles. He added he had felt the burden of a debt to the nation and thus shared his own experience and finding with the people and to help guide and open the eyes of those who might be tempted to be lured by the empty slogans of the outlawed organisation.

Mo'infar was arrested by the former secret police of the defunct shah in 1976 and sentenced to a five-years prison term but was freed from the prison during the Islamic revolution.

TEHRAN REPORTS ON AFGHAN MUJAHIDIN ACTIVITIES

GF181646 Tehran International Service in Urdu 1415 GMT 18 Dec 81

[Text] At a time in which the mujahidin's war against Soviet troops in Afghanistan has acquired a new dimension and Brezhnev -- during his recent meeting with Karmal in Moscow -- has said that foreign countries should not interfere in Afghanistan's domestic affairs, Afghan mujahidin have announced that during a major fight they destroyed 6 MiG's, 2 helicopter gunships and 70 tanks belonging to Soviet and Afghan Government troops.

In another skirmish, 1 Soviet commander and 90 Afghan Government troops were killed. This incident occurred when Soviet and Afghan Government troops launched a massive attack against Muslim Afghan mujahidin positions in Farah Province, in western Afghanistan.

Further Report

LD192330 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 19 Dec 81

[Text] According to a PARS report, in the course of a fierce battle between the Afghan mujahidin and the aggressor Russian soldiers, 27 aggressor Russian soldiers were killed. In addition to this, three Russian tanks and one helicopter gunship were destroyed. In the course of this engagement, which lasted 4 days, the Muslim mujahidin took a considerable quantity of arms from the aggressor Russian soldiers.